

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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42

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 /059 W

----- 050232

R 161541Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8846

INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 3515

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, NI, CA

SUBJECT: MEA DENIES PRESS ACCESS TO CANADIAN FOREIGN MINISTER

REF: LAGOS 3405, OTTAWA 1052

1. CANADIAN FOREIGN MINISTER ALLEN MACEACHEN'S ORIENTATION TOUR OF NIGERIA RAN ABRUPTLY INTO THE CROSSFIRE OF GOVERNMENT/PRESS ANTAGONISM MONDAY WHEN NIGERIAN OFFICIALS KEPT JOURNALISTS AWAY FROM MACEACHEN THROUGHOUT HIS 30-MINUTE ARRIVAL AND RECEPTION AT IKEJA AIRPORT. ONE FMG OFFICIAL WAS QUOTED AS SAYING, "IF WE WANT THE PUBLIC TO KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT HIS VISIT, THE CABINET OFFICE WILL ISSUE A PRESS STATEMENT." MEA PERMANENT SECRETARY JOE IYALLA WAS NOT AS BLUNT BUT JUST AS FIRM: "OUR OWN DUTY IS ONLY TO RECEIVE THE MINISTER. WE DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT HIS MEETING THE PRESS."

2. THE CANADIAN HIGH COMMISSION HAS FOUND THE SITUATION SOMEWHAT AWKWARD, AS THE DAILY TIMES, IN GETTING A DIG AT FMG, DESCRIBED MACEACHEN AS BEING "ON AN UNDISCLOSED MISSION." HOWEVER, PRESS CONFERENCE IS SCHEDULED, AND HIGH COMMISSION HOPES DISPEL ANY MISAPPREHENSIONS.

3. COMMENT: THIS INCIDENT APPEARS TO BE A DIRECT
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FOLLOW-ON TO GENERAL GOWON'S WARNING TO IKEJA AIRPORT

REPORTERS THAT "IF YOU CONTINUE TO EMBARASS US... THERE
WILL BE NO MORE AIRPORT INTERVIEWS FOR YOU."
CROSBY

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, PRESS CONFERENCES, VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975LAGOS03515
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750134-0779
From: LAGOS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750447/aaaabrel.tel
Line Count: 64
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 LAGOS 3405, 75 OTTAWA 1052
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05 MAY 2003 by Izenbel0>; APPROVED <06 MAY 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MEA DENIES PRESS ACCESS TO CANADIAN FOR- EIGN MINISTER
TAGS: PFOR, PINS, NI, CA, (MACEACHEN, ALLAN J)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006